

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 28 through claim 52 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Original) A computer-implemented method of ranking the relevancy of a collection of hypertext pages to a keyword-based query, comprising:
- calculating an intrinsic rank of a page;
 - calculating an extrinsic rank of the page; and
 - calculating the rank of the page by combining the intrinsic rank and the extrinsic rank.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the intrinsic rank is a function of the content score and the page weight of the page.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the content score is a function of the frequency, location, and/or font size of a keyword in the page.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the page weight is defined as the probability of a user visiting the page when traveling in the collection of hypertext pages in a random fashion.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the page weight is obtained as the sum of the product of a link weight of each inbound link to the page and the page weight of the originating page.
6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the page weight is computed by the following steps of:
- constructing a connectivity graph, which represents the collection of hypertext pages and the link structure between the pages;
 - adding a page weight reservoir with bi-directional links to and from each of the pages in the collection of hypertext pages; and

summing all of the products of each inbound link weight with the page weight of the originating page providing the inbound link.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising computing the page weights by the following steps of:

initializing a page weight vector to a constant;

constructing a connectivity graph representative of the link structure of the collection of pages;

computing an output page weight vector from the input page weight vector and the connectivity graph; and

comparing the output page weight vector with the input page weight vector for convergence, and if convergence is reached, writing the output page weight vector in a page weight database, and if not, mixing the input and output page weight vectors to generate a new input page weight vector and repeating until convergence is reached.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the link weight is defined as the probability of a user randomly choosing the link to visit other pages when traveling in the collection of hypertext pages.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the link weight of the inbound links has a uniform value corresponding to the reciprocal of the total number of links outbound from an originating page.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the link weight has a variable value, which depends on the number of outbound links, the offset of the link, the size of the paragraph where the link is located, and/or whether the link is an external or internal link.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the extrinsic rank is a function of the anchor weight and the page weight of the pages providing inbound links to the page.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the extrinsic rank is obtained by summing the products of the anchor weight and the page weight of the originating page providing each inbound link.
13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the anchor weight is a function of the inbound link weights and the keyword being present in the anchor text, in the vicinity of the anchor text, or in text related to the topic of the anchor text.
14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the page weight is defined as the probability of a user randomly visiting a page in the collection of hypertext pages.
15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the page weight is obtained by summing the products of the link weight of each inbound link to the page and the page weight of the originating page providing the inbound links.
16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the page weight is computed by the following steps of:
- constructing a connectivity graph, which represents the collection of hypertext pages and the link structure between the pages;
 - adding a page weight reservoir with bi-directional links to and from each of the pages in the collection of hypertext pages; and
 - summing all of the products of each inbound link weight with the page weight of the originating page providing the inbound link.
17. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising computing the page weights by the following steps of:

B1
X

initializing a page weight vector to a constant;
constructing a connectivity graph representative of the link structure of the collection of pages;
computing an output page weight vector from the input page weight vector and the connectivity graph; and
comparing the output page weight vector with the input page weight vector for convergence, and if convergence is reached, writing the output page weight vector in a page weight database, and if not, mixing the input and output page weight vectors to generate a new input page weight vector and repeating until convergence is reached.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the link weight is defined as the probability of a user randomly choosing the link to visit other pages when traveling in the collection of hypertext pages.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the link weight of the inbound links has a uniform value corresponding to the reciprocal of the total number of links outbound from an originating page.

20. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the link weight has a variable value, which depends on the number of outbound links, the offset of the link, the size of the paragraph where the link is located, and/or whether the link is an external or internal link.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the collection of hypertext pages is fetched from the Web.

22. (Original) A computer-implemented method of ranking a collection of hypertext pages, comprising:

calculating the intrinsic rank of a page for a multi-keyword query;

calculating the extrinsic rank of the page for the multi-keyword query; and
calculating the rank of the page in the collection of hypertext pages by combining the
intrinsic rank and the extrinsic rank.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the intrinsic rank is a function of content score and the page weight.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the content score is a function of the proximity value of the multi-keywords and of the frequency, location, and/or font size of the multi-keywords in the page.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the extrinsic rank of the page is a function of the partial extrinsic ranks and the proximity value of the multi-keywords.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein partial extrinsic rank is a function of the anchor weight and the page weight of the pages with identical anchor text.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein partial extrinsic rank is computed by summing the products of the anchor weight and the page weight of the pages with identical anchor text.

28. – 52.* (Currently Cancelled).

{* Note regarding canceled claim range 28. – 52.: The application as filed contained two claims using claim number 47. Please cancel both claims using number 47.}